

Office of the State Board of Education

- Early childhood development program
- Innovations in public education

Department of Health and Welfare

- Improve immunization campaign
- Increase Chicken Pox vaccine
- Continue Child Health Insurance Program

Public Health Districts

- Create statewide immunization registry

Phase in elimination of the income tax marriage penalty

- First year revenue impact of multi-year plan

Department of Law Enforcement

- Reduce methamphetamine usage
- Increase drug training

Public Schools

- Literacy program
- Technology funding and report
- Expand innovative teacher grants
- Facilities study
- Teacher incentive awards
- Expand limited English proficiency program
- Additional substance abuse funding

College & Universities

- University/College excellence

Scholarships and Grants

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- Enhanced match for educational assistance

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Agricultural Research

- Noxious weed & water quality funding

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- Preserve holdings (millennium project)

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- Purchase Property for Ponderosa State Park multi-year plan

Tobacco Settlement Funds

- FY 1999 and FY 2000 put in Budget Stabilization Fund

FY 2000 Governor's Initiative Update

The Governor's Initiatives for FY 2000 are currently underway. The information provided in this section is to inform the reader about the progress that has been obtained through these initiatives. This information is based upon six months of experience in the current fiscal year, therefore; the information will be updated at the conclusion of the fiscal year with an assessment of the results for the full fiscal year.

Administration, Department of

- **Provide Information Technology Training** - Training has occurred for agencies on technical aspects of the State's technology system, including web-based applications. There have been 317 classes held so far and 1,795 people have received training. The web-based classes started in November and 44 technicians, representing 19 agencies, have received training so far.

A two-day "Boot Camp" is slated for the spring of 2000 for policy makers and technical support staff. For policy maker personnel, there will be an emphasis on understanding E-Government and E/Commerce applications and how it can be used to improve access and utilization by the citizens of the State. Technical issues designed specifically for Information Technology management and technical employees will also be held.

Commerce, Department of

- **Economic Development** - The Governor recommended and the legislature concurred with the establishment of a Washington, DC office that will facilitate Idaho interests, nationally and internationally, in economic and trade opportunities. The office for the spaceport project was also established and planning is underway with the Department of Energy and the Regional Development Alliance. Though certain aspects of the spaceport project have been delayed by other entities, Idaho may still need to make a comprehensive proposal early in FY 2001.
- **Overseas Market Expansion** - Idaho producers and products have been showcased in Asia and Mexico this year. Estimates place the value of pending contracts between mission participants and Chinese companies at \$10 million. Cooperative education agreements have been negotiated and trade issues, such as dumping of computer chips, have been addressed.

Corrections, Department of

- **Delay Opening Private Prison** - Private prison opening was delayed until July 1, 2000, without incurring additional costs in the long-range plan.

Education, Office of the State Board of

- **Early Childhood Development Program** - The Legislature did not fund this initiative.
- **Innovations in Public Education** - The Governor's initiative, funded with a \$100,000 legislative appropriation, provided 184 grants in varying amounts (up to \$500.00). A variety of classroom innovations were supported with this funding, including new approaches to reading strategies, student-to-student learning opportunities, and innovative technology approaches. One teacher organized an e-mail business where the students sold products on-line. One class published books on what they had learned from WWII veterans.

Education, State Department of

Agricultural Research

- **Noxious Weed and Water Quality Funding** - In the water quality area, Agricultural Research and Extension filled a position at the Caldwell extension center. This individual works with the Division of Environmental Quality and other agencies in Southern Idaho and statewide. With respect to noxious weed control, two new positions (bio-control entomologist and weed science/chemical emphasis) will be filled by early January 2000. Both positions, and the overall Agricultural Research and Extension

faculty, will work with the Department of Agriculture (which created a statewide strategic plan for noxious weeds) and other resource agencies: federal, state, and local. The additional amount provided was \$200,000, without any matching requirement, as recommended by the Governor.

College & Universities

- **College and Universities Excellence** - The Legislature supported the Governor's recommendation for an appropriation of \$1.3 million in FY 2000 for College and Universities Excellence. Certain criteria must be met to receive an award. The grants are expended in highly competitive technological areas and are to address student and state economic interests. The Governor's recommendation for FY 2001 continues this grant program.

State appropriations at post-secondary institutions are being expended in the following manner during the current fiscal year:

University of Idaho (\$442,000) - Computer Security, Network Security and two Computer Engineering faculty were hired. Salary competitiveness in computer assisted areas was addressed. Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory (INEEL) funding helped match state funds for a Professor of Bioremediation. There was an upgrade or creation of ten graduate assistantships and the hiring of a professor in Transportation Engineering.

Boise State University (\$364,000) - Nine new faculty in Computer Science, Engineering and Computer Information Systems/Information Technology were added. Faculty recruitment was enhanced through incentives with "start-up" funds for new laboratories and research agendas.

Idaho State University (\$364,000) - A program for a Bachelor of Science in Surveying Technology with two new faculty and one institution assistant was created. A Center of Excellence in Integrated Environmental Analysis in partnership with INEEL by hiring two faculty and providing financial assistance for six doctoral research assistants was established.

Lewis-Clark State College (\$130,000) - Six faculty in Chemistry, Information Science, Physics, Technical-Professional Electronics, Technical Writing, and Oral Communication were added. Science equipment was purchased to support new instruction and provide recruitment incentives.

Historical Society

- **Preserve Holdings (Millennium Project)** - The archivist position has traveled to several counties to acquire official records which otherwise might not have been obtained by the State. The second staff person is creating a searchable database of approximately 30,000 images from the Sigler collection. The assistant will produce a notebook of photographs from this collection for public viewing. A complement to the first year of the Millennium project is a grant from the Idaho Heritage Trust which will allow new prints to be made from the highly volatile negatives in the Sigler collection. This second grant would not have been possible without initial funding from the State.

Public Schools

- **Literacy Program** - \$3.9 million was appropriated to fund the three legislative bills passed to address a comprehensive literacy act for students in grades K-3, including pre- and in-service training for elementary teachers.
- **Technology Funding and Report** - The Governor's recommendation was to continue with previous years' funding of \$10.4 million, with \$3.0 million contingent upon the results of an independent study focusing on the benefits of the technology funding. That report was completed and submitted to the Governor in mid-December, 1999. The Governor has since released the \$3.0 million contingency amount and is recommending the Legislature appropriate the full \$10.4 million for FY 2001.
- **Expand Innovative Teacher Grants** - Based upon the Governor's recommendation, the Legislature increased funding for this grant program from \$250,000 to \$425,000. This allows a statewide committee to allocate an expanded amount of funding to grants, which focus on improving reading and math comprehension.
- **Facilities Study** - The Legislature appropriated \$200,000 to the Governor to update the data collected during the 1993 school facilities study. A committee concluded their work in November 1999 and submitted its final report to the Governor in December. One of the major findings of the

study was a statewide backlog of between 25 and 48 million dollars of building health and safety concerns.

- **Teacher Incentive Awards** - 1999 Legislature passed SB 1091aa which created a program to award stipends to teachers who became nationally certified. Seventeen teachers will be funded for the first five years with FY 2000 monies.
- **Expand Limited English Proficiency Program** - An estimated 16,300 students will be served with FY 2000 funding, an increase from 13,300 from two years previous to 2000.
- **Additional Substance Abuse Funding** - 95% of funds were passed-through to school districts; the remaining amount provided \$80,000 to the Commission on Hispanic Youth and discretionary grants as determined by the Drug-Free School and Communities Advisory Board. Each participating school district will submit an evaluation of its program at the conclusion of FY 2000.

Scholarships and Grants

- **Increase Student Financial Aid** - 300 additional students will be provided with college work-study opportunities during FY 2000. This extra income will assist them with financing their college education. A total of 1,670 students in Idaho are expected to receive support from the additional \$250,000 appropriated by the Legislature, as recommended by the Governor.

Environmental Quality, Division of

- **Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Development and Implementation** - A new Technical Services group was formed. This group is available to all of the programs and the staff, including the regions, so that adequate resources are available for developing proper plans. Although Division of Environmental Quality (DEQ) received \$122,000 for two new positions in the TMDL area, the level of effort may increase from a total of 16 positions last year to over 20 positions this fiscal year.
- **Bull Trout Protection Plan** - Although DEQ received \$122,000 for two new positions in this area, the level of effort is expected to total \$225,000 this fiscal year. In addition to the staff effort, \$30,000 has been budgeted to match a like amount made available by Avista Corporation for bull trout recovery efforts. At the request of the Governor, the focus of the bull trout effort has changed from writing conservation plans to participating in the recovery planning process as developed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Governor's Office

Military Division

- **Enhanced Match for Educational Assistance** - So far, 60 new recruits have received additional education assistance.

Health and Welfare, Department of

- **Improve Immunization Campaign** - Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) funding is provided to continue the media campaigns for foster care, adoption, early childhood development, education on children's mental health, shaken baby syndrome, substance abuse, and respite care. Funding will also be used to develop and provide outreach and educational material on the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP); educate low income families in a more coordinated manner about available services to meet the needs of children; and provide additional funding for the Governor's Council on Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention for a comprehensive statewide media campaign. Funding is also provided to develop and conduct a statewide comprehensive multi-media campaign to educate parents, communities, and public and private immunization providers. Partnership continues to be formed to meet the Governor's goals and objectives.
- **Increase Chicken Pox Vaccine** - The funding provided for Chicken Pox vaccine during FY 2000 will be used to vaccinate 72% of one year's birth cohort (approximately 13,000 children), plus the catch-up for children up to 12 years of age (approximately 7,581 children).

- **Continue Child Health Insurance Program (CHIP)** - As of December 16, 1999, there were 4,446 children enrolled in the program.

Law Enforcement, Department of

- **Reduce Methamphetamine Usage** - The Department has hired three new investigators for Coeur d'Alene as well as two criminalists for the District 1 lab and one criminalist for the Meridian lab.
- **Increase Drug Training** - To date over 100 new state and local police officers have been trained in clandestine lab awareness as part of the POST curriculum. In addition, over 12 regional training programs have been provided to state and local law enforcement officers currently on the job. The training involves clandestine lab awareness and drug interdiction methods to identify and eliminate meth labs.

Parks and Recreation, Department of

- **Purchase Property for Ponderosa State Park** - The Legislature supports the multi-year plan to secure certain parcels within the park for public use. The multi-year plan is being implemented and suitable parcels for exchange are being explored pending final financial arrangements.

Public Health Districts

- **Immunization Registry** - Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) funds (\$750,000) are provided in FY 2000 for immunization registry. SB 1183 (1999 Legislative Session) provides for a voluntary registry program. A Request for Proposal (RFP) was written to develop a registry plan. Scientific Technologies Corporation (STC) was awarded the contract and the plan was delivered on December 2, 1999. Under the same RFP, the Department of Health and Welfare entered into a contract with STC to implement the plan over the next two years.

Arts, Commission on the

- **Rural School Arts Tours** - The ongoing \$30,000 enhancement for the "School Connections" program increased the outreach of professional performances, exhibitions, readings, and hands-on arts education activities to the most rural and underserved areas of Idaho. Increased funding permitted several premier arts organizations: Ballet Idaho, the Boise Philharmonic, Festival Dance of Moscow, the Idaho Shakespeare Festival, and Idaho Dance Theater to expand their tours. Funds were also distributed to mid-size and rural organizations such as: the Salmon Arts Council, Orofino Regional Arts Council, Pend Oreille Arts Council, and the Lewis and Clark Center for Arts and History which are providing quality arts experiences for youth in even the most isolated areas. The increased funding also permitted individual artists such as Idaho Falls storyteller, Kaye Wessman and Moore cowboy poet, Sam Jackson to share their talents with the youth of our State.

General Government

Tobacco Settlement Funds

- **FY 1999 and FY 2000 put in Budget Stabilization Fund** - Tobacco settlement funds began arriving in December, 1999 and have been deposited in the Budget Stabilization Fund in accordance with the Governor's recommendation and legislative direction.

Phase-In Elimination of the Income Tax Marriage Penalty

- **First Year Revenue Impact of Multi-Year Plan** - The first year of the multi-year plan received legislative endorsement.